United Nations A/55/6 (Prog.17)

General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 April 2000

Original: English

Fifty-fifth session
Item 120 of the preliminary list*
Programme planning

Proposed medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005

Programme 17
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Contents

		Page
Overall orientation		2
Subprogramme 1.	Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation.	2
Subprogramme 2.	Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development.	3
Subprogramme 3.	Macroeconomic policies and growth.	4
Subprogramme 4.	Social development and equity	5
Subprogramme 5.	Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development	6
Subprogramme 6.	Population and development	6
Subprogramme 7.	Planning of public administration	7
Subprogramme 8.	Environment and human settlements	8
Subprogramme 9.	Natural resources and infrastructure	9
Subprogramme 10.	Statistics and economic projections.	9
Subprogramme 11.	Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America	10
Subprogramme 12.	Subregional activities in the Caribbean.	11
Legislative mandates		13

* A/55/50.

00-38035 (E) 280400

Overall orientation

17.1 The overall purpose of this programme is to promote the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean through interactive cooperation with member States in a comprehensive analysis of the development process and in providing the relevant operational services.

17.2 The mandate for the programme, which falls within the purview of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), derives from Economic and Social Council resolution 106 (VI), by which the Council established the Commission and entrusted it, *inter alia*, with initiating and participating in measures for raising the level of economic activity in Latin America and the Caribbean; maintaining and strengthening economic relations among the countries of the region and between them and other countries; making or sponsoring such research and studies as the Commission deemed appropriate; and undertaking or sponsoring the collection, evaluation and dissemination of information on regional development issues, trends and policies. The mandate has been set forth in greater detail in various resolutions adopted subsequently by the General Assembly, the Council and the Commission.

17.3 The Commission's overall strategy for achieving the objectives of the programme is structured around 12 interdependent and complementary subprogrammes. It is based on the proposal for changing production patterns with social equity for Latin America and the Caribbean adopted by ECLAC in its resolution 519 (XXIV). The strategy will be implemented through an integrated approach. This approach is reflected in each of the subprogrammes at two levels: the goal of social equity, which emerges in its various dimensions in all subprogrammes; and, notwithstanding the effective specialization of each, emphasis on the strong links between the subprogrammes. Gender mainstreaming, consideration of environmental sustainability, institution-building and improvement of public regulation are priority aspects of such interrelationships. The strategy places special emphasis, in terms of analytical work, on the design of public policy and on facilitating its practical implementation through operational services in the areas of specialized information, technical assistance and training and by fostering cooperation at the regional and international levels.

17.4 Expected accomplishments by the end of the plan period would include:

(a) Increased effectiveness and efficiency of ECLAC in the systematization of information, technical assistance, the monitoring of relevant regional developments, action-oriented research and interaction with various government bodies;

(b) An analysis of development-related issues from a regional perspective, with special emphasis on new trends and their effects on the performance of Latin America and the Caribbean, using an integrated approach, and a comparative analysis of national experiences;

(c) A stronger role in communicating the region's concerns and interests in world forums and highlighting in regional forums the issues that attract world attention;

(d) Increased technical cooperation between developing countries and collaboration in subregional, regional and hemispheric integration schemes;

(e) The generation of new information that supports bilateral and multilateral cooperation, particularly in the areas of trade linkages, transport, common standards, productive and technological development, the efficient use of water and energy, environmental sustainability and gender mainstreaming;

(f) Wider dissemination of ECLAC outputs, modernized channels of communication and use of more effective mechanisms for targeting various user groups.

Subprogramme 1
Linkages with the global economy, regional integration and cooperation

Objectives

17.5 The objectives of this subprogramme are to increase member States' awareness of the challenges and opportunities for strengthening their linkages with the global economy as well as to further the development of agreements in the region and to promote the harmonization of and convergence between existing agreements.

Strategy

17.6 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the International Trade and Development Finance Division, which will monitor and assess the most significant economic developments challenging countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in an increasingly globalized world. This implies improving, quantitatively and qualitatively, their share of trade, foreign direct investment and technology flows, enhancing their capacity to exploit new opportunities, analysing the implications of such changes for the region and identifying appropriate measures for confronting adverse situations. To this end, data systematization and analytical and technical assistance activities will be organized to enhance national and regional discussions on appropriate policies for promoting competitiveness. A comparison of national experiences in export promotion within and outside of the region, with a view to formulating policy recommendations on the issue, will also be made. In addition, the subprogramme will monitor, assess and report to member States current developments on international trade rules negotiated under the auspices of the World Trade Organization as part of the ongoing Millennium Round and on negotiations between countries and groups of countries in the region, those of the European Union and those in the Asia and Pacific region.

17.7 Analytical and operational support will be provided to: (a) member States and relevant subregional organizations through the preparation and dissemination of documents and technical reports that will foster the exchange of experiences and promote technical discussions through panels and expert group meetings; the formulation and execution of technical cooperation projects geared to the specific needs of member States in key areas such as macroeconomic coordination, the integration of physical infrastructure and the harmonization of domestic regulations, in particular those relating to social protection and factor (including labour) mobility; and the execution of technical assistance missions; and (b) the international community in its efforts to reform the global financial architecture.

Expected accomplishments

17.8 The expected accomplishments would include: (a) stronger institutional capacities in the public and private sectors of natural economies in the Latin America and Caribbean region; (b) the development and consolidation of new forms of international integration for the region in the context of the parallel advancement of globalization and open regionalism in Latin America and the Caribbean; (c) the beneficial effects of up-to-date information and knowledge produced and disseminated by ECLAC on human resources training; (d) stronger institutions that participate in decision-making, implement activities and generate concrete progress in subregional, regional and hemispheric integration; and (e) an impetus to the gradual improvement, harmonization and convergence of the numerous integration schemes.

Indicators of achievement

17.9 The indicators of achievement would be: (a) the number of policies adopted for boosting competitiveness and growth that make use of, among other things, the Commission's analytical inputs, proposals and technical cooperation; (b) the consolidation of new patterns of specialization following meetings set up by ECLAC; (c) the increased use of specialized information generated and disseminated by the Commission as a basis for negotiating processes; (d) the expression of satisfaction by eminent persons and the echoes noted in specialist literature in the region and beyond of the secretariat's work in specific subject areas; (e) the effectiveness of the technical cooperation provided by the secretariat; and (f) the number of users accessing relevant documentation and reports on the Commission's web site.

Subprogramme 2
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development

Objective

17.10 The objective of this subprogramme is to assist member States in the design and implementation of new institutional mechanisms, regulatory frameworks and policy instruments affecting the different meso- and microeconomic behaviour of economic agents and productive sectors with a view to raising production growth rates and narrowing the productivity gap in relation to the developed countries.

Strategy

17.11 Substantive responsibility for the execution of this subprogramme rests with the Division of Production, Productivity and Management. The strategy to be followed will include the provision of support to member States through the processing and analysis of specialized information and the dissemination of the Commission's analytical results and proposals on restructuring in the agricultural, industrial and service sectors, as well as through technical cooperation. Special attention will be paid to industrial competitiveness policies, including, export promotion, the strengthening of national technological innovation systems, training and the development of natural-resource-based production clusters; to agricultural development and foreign direct investment policies; and to analysing the behavioural differences between individual economic agents, such as transnational corporations, large local conglomerates and small and medium-sized enterprises, or between different production activities in the agricultural, industrial and service sectors.

Expected accomplishments

17.12 The expected accomplishments would include: facilitation of policy-making or policy-review processes in the context of productive restructuring and in the design and implementation of new institutional mechanisms; and the design or revision of regulatory frameworks and policy instruments with a view to increasing production growth rates and reducing productivity lags in comparison with the developed countries.

Indicators of achievement

17.13 The indicators of achievement are expected to be the satisfaction expressed by member countries with the timeliness and quality of documents and technical reports distributed by the Commission, the outcome of operational activities determined through such means as surveys, and an increase in the readership of the Commission's documents and technical reports, whether in print or on the Internet.

Subprogramme 3
Macroeconomic policies and growth

Objective

17.14 The objective of this subprogramme is to follow up on the evolution of the region's macroeconomic performance with a view to furthering the harmonization of macroeconomic policies and strengthening the new strategies adopted by member States for achieving sustainable long-term growth.

Strategy

17.15 Substantive responsibility for the execution of this subprogramme rests with the Economic Development Division. The strategy will be to continue systematic monitoring of macroeconomic trends with a view to contributing to a fuller understanding of problems and to identifying policy options for overcoming them. The increasing globalization of economies makes it imperative to continue to assist countries in this regard. The Commission's rapid response capability in terms of policy analysis and formulation of proposals on emerging macroeconomic issues will be strengthened. The exchange of experiences and technical discussions will be facilitated through panels and meetings of experts. The results of research will be discussed and operational activities will be promoted. Activities may include technical cooperation projects, consultancy missions and training activities.

17.16 A comparative analysis of the lessons learned in other regions — whether positive or negative for Latin America and the Caribbean — on harmonizing macroeconomic policies will be carried out. Special attention will be paid to tax policies, fiscal spending, monetary and foreign exchange policies and policies for liability management. Key macroeconomic fundamentals on which sustainable economic growth depends will be monitored and analysed. Investment, investment financing and policies for overcoming external constraints will be studied. Methods of ensuring that the benefits of economic development are extended to wider population groups will be developed, and the need for policies that increase social equity will be stressed. Analyses of labour markets will also be carried out.

Expected accomplishments

17.17 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) goal-setting (and the introduction of any adjustments considered necessary) by Governments with respect to their policies and economic performance; (b) the harmonization of macroeconomic policies in the context of the move towards regional integration; (c) strengthened technical cooperation at the regional level as a result of the exchange of national experiences and lessons learned; (d) an increase in the capacity to design macroeconomic policies that are more consistent with objectives for long-term growth; and (e) a fuller understanding of labour markets and their effects on social equity and, consequently, strengthened capacity for policy-making or for reshaping existing policies in a manner more consistent with the goal of social equity.

Indicators of achievement

17.18 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the degree of satisfaction expressed by member countries, as measured through surveys, with the information placed at their disposal by the Commission and with the technical cooperation provided; and (b) with respect to the Commission's documents and technical reports, whether in print or on the Internet, on such topics as the prerequisites for sustainable long-term growth and the harmonization of macroeconomic developments in the region, the level of readership, their impact in the press, reviews in specialist literature and the opinion of eminent experts in the field.

Subprogramme 4
Social development and equity

Objective

17.19 The objective of this subprogramme is to accelerate the alleviation of poverty and the attainment of social equity by member States in the region by strengthening their capacity to design and implement appropriate social policies, programmes and projects.

Strategy

17.20 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of this subprogramme rests with the Social Development Division. The strategy will be to increase the capacity of countries of the region by analysing their experiences to determine what instruments have been successful and to study the principal problems encountered. Countries will be assisted in updating diagnostic analyses of social conditions, particularly as regards identifying and monitoring situations of poverty, and in analysing the relationship between employment, income distribution and education. The economic and social effects of the production, trafficking and consumption of narcotic drugs will be analysed. National policies for the prevention and control of these activities will also be analysed, together with alternative development programmes for coping with the consequences of these problems.

17.21 As part of the strategy, methodological inputs will be provided through the development of new criteria for measuring efficiency in the use of resources and effectiveness in the execution of social policies, programmes and projects. An attempt will be made to strengthen social institutions and evaluate results, with special attention paid to factors and situations that affect vulnerable groups. Stronger interaction between this and other subprogrammes will be promoted to identify and analyse factors that enhance equity and social integration. Policy proposals will be developed on the basis of this integrated approach. This strategy requires a mix of policy-making activities involving analysis, methodology, assessment and formulation of proposals together with relevant technical cooperation activities. Support will be provided to countries in the review, design and implementation of new or additional policies, mechanisms and instruments, as appropriate. The mix of policy-making activities will include technical cooperation, consultancy missions and training in methodologies and assessment. In addition, the strategy will facilitate follow-up of studies and strengthen coordinated action by the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations in the areas of production, trafficking and consumption of narcotic drugs. Policies, programmes and projects aimed at overcoming poverty will be facilitated by systematizing and analysing crucial information, preparing diagnostic analyses and developing methodologies.

Expected accomplishments

17.22 The expected accomplishments would include: (a) strengthened capacity of countries to design and implement policies that target the most underprivileged sectors so as to increase the quality of human capital

and foster social equity; (b) increased capacity of national social institutions to analyse their experiences in managing social policies, programmes and projects and to incorporate any necessary adjustments; (c) facilitation of the appropriate design and review of policies, programmes and projects aimed at overcoming poverty; and (d) increased capacity of programmes in the prevention of drug consumption and the control of drug trafficking in terms of targeting, selectivity and impact.

Indicators of achievement

17.23 The indicators of achievements would include: (a) the expression of satisfaction by member countries with the timeliness, significance and relevance of the information, advice and technical cooperation provided by the Commission, to be measured through various means, such as surveys, reviews and quotations in specialist literature and the opinion of eminent experts in the field; (b) an increase in the capacity of Governments to adapt policies and guidelines aimed at overcoming poverty to changing circumstances; and (c) fulfilment by ECLAC of the demand for advice and training.

Subprogramme 5
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development

Objective

17.24 The objective of this subprogramme is to increase awareness of gender issues and to promote gender mainstreaming in regional development, including within all ECLAC programmes and projects.

Strategy

17.25 Substantive responsibility for the execution of this subprogramme rests with the Women and Development Unit in the Office of the Secretary of the Commission. The strategy will be pursued by promoting the consolidation and strengthening of the institutional mechanism in the region for reducing the gender gap in various spheres of development. The region's capacity for research and development related to gender issues will be strengthened, and countries will be assisted in analysing priority issues for gender equity and for mainstreaming the gender perspective in all relevant activities.

17.26 In addition, the activities of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and of the presiding officers of the Conference will be maintained and strengthened. Efforts within ECLAC to mainstream the gender perspective into all of its programmes and projects will be strengthened. Information and substantive and methodological training will be provided to government offices for the advancement of women to enable them to strengthen their institutional capacities and to carry out the work of intersectoral coordination. The Commission's role as focal point for inter-agency coordination of gender equity activities carried out by bodies within the United Nations system in the region will be promoted. Studies and research will be expanded, including further study of new information generated.

Expected accomplishments

17.27 The expected accomplishments would include: (a) strengthened and consolidated national and regional institutions whose purpose is to reduce the gender gap; and (b) increased and systematic incorporation of the gender perspective into the ECLAC work programme.

Indicators of achievement

17.28 The indicators of achievement would be: (a) the expression of satisfaction by member countries with up-to-date information and gender-sensitive methodologies and information provided by the Commission on priority issues contained in the programmes of action; and (b) the number of subprogrammes which, by the end of the period, have systematically incorporated the gender perspective into their principal ongoing activities and extrabudgetary projects.

Subprogramme 6
Population and development

Objectives

17.29 The objectives are to assist member States: (a) in strengthening their technical capacity, for monitoring population trends for use in social programming, in particular to assess socio-demographic factors that tend to generate disadvantages and other forms of social vulnerability; and (b) in monitoring and implementing the

agreements and goals of the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development.

Strategy

17.30 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Population Division. In pursuit of the objective, the Division will promote the agreements and goals of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development as well as the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, coordinate interaction and exchange experiences in monitoring their status and make contributions by generating up-to-date specialized information on the interrelationship between population and development for use in the adoption of appropriate social and economic policies and decisions. The strategy also includes: (a) systematizing analysing data, preparing diagnostic analyses and developing proposals for facilitating the formulation of important operational activities and policies that foster regional cooperation, including the promotion of technical cooperation among developing countries; (b) fostering and improving social equity to protect historically disadvantaged groups and those segments of the population most affected by economic and social restructuring; and (c) exchanging data, experiences and relevant national procedures among countries in the region concurrently, placing at their disposal the Commission's capacity for analytical study and for drafting proposals aimed at improving policy-making in the field of demographics.

17.31 The subprogramme will also seek to monitor on an ongoing basis fertility, mortality, age structure, internal migration and other trends, as well as patterns of territorial distribution of the population in the region in response to the concerns of policymakers. In addition, the subprogramme will facilitate the periodic review of demographic projections in the region and carry out operational activities by assisting countries in strengthening their technical capacity to follow up on socio-demographic variables and trends.

Expected accomplishments

17.32 The expected accomplishments for ECLAC member countries would include: (a) greater capacity in following up and fulfilling the agreements and goals set forth in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development; (b) strengthened technical capacity in incorporating socio-demographic variables in the design of their programmes and development projects; (c) improved capacity to design policies and programmes for overcoming the vulnerability of disadvantaged social sectors and the intergenerational transmission of disadvantageous conditions; (d) the availability of new information, studies and technical support from the Commission that foster policies geared to harmonizing migratory trends with national development objectives; and (e) strengthened capacity to monitor changes in the main demographic variables required as inputs in social programming .

Indicators of achievement

17.33 Indicators would include, but would not be limited to: (a) the number of requests for technical cooperation received and fulfilled by the Commission for supporting member countries; (b) the number of meetings of experts or authorities of member countries organized by ECLAC for promoting the exchange of experiences and lessons learned in relation to the implementation of the Programme of Action; and (c) the expression of satisfaction by member countries on the timeliness, importance and relevance of the information, documents and technical reports of the Commission, to be measured through such a media as surveys, reviews and quotations of ECLAC texts in specialist literature, and the readership of ECLAC documents and technical reports.

Subprogramme 7
Planning of public administration

Objective

17.34 The objective is to strengthen the institutional capacity of member States' public administration at the regional, national and local levels, in particular with regard to basic planning functions and the challenges arising from privatization, deregulation of economic activities, protection of consumers and the need to improve the regulatory frameworks of public services and non-competitive sectors.

Strategy

17.35 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Latin American and

Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). In pursuing the objectives, particular attention will be paid to: (a) analysing the interaction between economic reforms and strategic public management; (b) formulating, monitoring and assessing budgetary policy within the framework of integrated financial management systems; (c) review and developing methods for the design, programming and management of public investment, with special emphasis on training activities; (d) planning and land-use planning and fostering the design of policies and instruments consistent with the decentralization of government functions; and (e) developing an analytical framework and proposals to assist the countries of the region in strengthening their institutional capacity and their endowment of skilled human resources.

Expected accomplishments

17.36 Expected accomplishments would include an increase in the availability of new information and improved technical expertise of regional, national and local government staff involved in the application of the basic principles of public administration planning and in the area of State regulation.

Indicators of achievement

17.37 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the expression of satisfaction by member States with the analytical contributions and proposals to be measured, for example, through surveys, the attention paid by the media and reviews and quotations in specialized publications; and (b) requests for technical cooperation fulfilled by the Commission, particularly in the area of training directed towards improving and updating the technical capacity of the human resources involved in planning and regulatory activities.

Subprogramme 8
Environment and human settlements

Objectives

17.38 The objectives of the subprogramme are: (a) to assist member States in the further implementation and monitoring of Agenda 21 and other new outcomes of United Nations global environmental conventions; (b) to strengthen their capacity for incorporating environmental considerations in the formulation and implementation of economic policies; and (c) to assist them in the design and implementation of land-use management systems to promote integrated and well-balanced human settlements.

Strategy

17.39 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Environment and Human Settlements Division. The strategy will place emphasis on conducting a comparative analysis of various systems of national and subregional environmental management, embracing relevant policies, and on monitoring changes in the institutional and legal frameworks of countries in the region seeking to further the exchange of experiences and best practices and providing cooperation as required, especially technical cooperation. Issues to be covered will include biodiversity, climate change, desertification, transboundary movements of hazardous wastes, toxic chemicals and depletion of the ozone layer. The strategy will also emphasize policy-related work, including the systematization of information and the development of methodologies, especially the design of indicators for facilitating the analysis of trends in sustainability, and the identification of risks and emerging issues associated with environmental realities. The links between economic development and the environmental policy agenda will also be determined. At the macroeconomic level, an empirical analysis will be made of reciprocal relationships between policies on trade and financial liberalization and privatization policies on the one hand, and the environment and environmental management on the other. At the microeconomic level, emphasis will be on production specialization trends and mechanisms for promoting clean production. The strategy will also consist of providing technical support to member countries.

17.40 Further, the strategy will include analytical work on issues such as inter- and intra-generational equity, social participation, socio-environmental vulnerability, different systems of local administration and the formulation of criteria for designing sustainable urban management strategies. Operational activities will include monitoring and implementing international agreements, in particular, those signed at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II). Other issues will be the trend towards decentralization, links between urban and economic

development and the establishment of production clusters based on land use.

Expected accomplishments

17.41 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) the increased application of global environmental agreements at the national and regional levels; (b) the development of new knowledge and criteria applicable to assessing sustainable development trends in the region; (c) the systematization of data and the development of methodologies that enrich and facilitate the adoption of environmental decisions; (d) increased national capacity to assess systematic trends towards sustainable patterns of development, (e) increased technical capacity to incorporate an environmental dimension into the design of economic policies and the innovative use of economic instruments in environmental management; (f) the adoption of integrated urban management practices incorporating systematic criteria of sustainability in the formulation of land-use policies; and (g) enhanced technical capacity to regularly incorporate social criteria into the design and implementation of environmental policies and the development of strategies for increased citizen participation.

Indicators of achievement

17.42 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the number of requests for technical cooperation received and fulfilled by ECLAC; (b) the development of environmental legislation and regulations relating to the application of environmentally sustainable policies; (c) the increased and systematic application of economic instruments to environmental management; and (d) the expression by member States of satisfaction with the Commission's analyses and proposals.

Subprogramme 9
Natural resources and infrastructure

Objective

17.43 The objective of the subprogramme is to promote the efficient use of natural resources and infrastructure in the energy, water, mining and transport sectors, and their environmentally sustainable management, with due consideration for social equity.

Strategy

17.44 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division. The strategy will be: to analyse new institutional mechanisms and improve regulatory frameworks for various sectors and activities, in particular privatized operations; to disseminate the outputs of such studies to ECLAC member countries to assist them in adopting appropriate policies and measures; to engage in technical assistance, with special emphasis on physical and trade integration of countries in the region and on fostering greater policy coordination; to carry out analytical work on issues of increasing importance, such as the implications and effects of decentralization, the privatization of the utilities industry and the influx of new actors in the management of natural resources and infrastructure services. Technical advice to ECLAC member countries and training activities for officials engaged in natural resource and infrastructure management will also be provided.

Expected accomplishments

17.45 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) strengthened technical expertise and facilitation of the design of suitable policies for promoting the efficient use of natural resources and infrastructure in a context of environmental sustainability and social equity; and (b) an increase in the capacity to manage natural resources and infrastructure at the decentralized regional and local levels, in particular, the strengthened capacity of stakeholders participating in these processes.

Indicators of achievement

17.46 Indicators would include: (a) the expression by member States of satisfaction with the Commission's analytical inputs, proposals and technical cooperation activities using various methodologies, including surveys; and (b) the number of requests for technical cooperation received and fulfilled by the Commission.

Subprogramme 10
Statistics and economic projections

Objectives

17.47 The objectives of the subprogramme are to strengthen the capacity of the region to produce the

statistics and projections necessary for formulating and monitoring policies designed to implement new development modalities and to increase the level of coordination of international statistical work across the region.

Strategy

17.48 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the Statistics and Economic Projections Division. The strategy is geared to meeting the demand for information arising from new economic modalities in the region engendered by economic, social and institutional reforms and the growing internationalization of economies and societies. The production of statistics as well as the data banks of the Commission's technical cooperation programmes (at the methodological, technological and training levels) will be further expanded and strengthened. In the economic sphere, specific aspects, such as internal and external financing, modern services, and variations in the value of physical and financial stocks will be considered. In the social sphere, equity-related issues will be accounted for in evaluating new economic modalities such as poverty, income distribution and the informal or low-productivity sectors. In the environmental sphere, selected issues relating to economic and social reforms will be examined. Prospective studies and projections will be produced to gauge trends in the new regional context and challenges arising in the economic and social spheres and to provide tools for the evaluation of advantages, costs and challenges corresponding to differing development scenarios. The subprogramme will pursue the strengthening of capacity for analysing current economic events in order to assist countries with their short-term policies and the introduction of methods and techniques for improving thematic and geographical coverage as well as the quality of statistical data.

Expected accomplishments

17.49 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) increased capacity of ECLAC and member countries to produce statistics, to expand, update and develop data banks and to generate analyses of current economic trends as inputs for the management of short-term policies; and (b) expanded and improved technical capacity of countries in the region to produce statistics and forecasts as inputs for developing economic and social programmes in the short, medium and long term.

Indicators of achievement

17.50 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) an increase in the number of databases and expansion of their coverage; (b) an increase in the use of ECLAC statistical information in forecasts by countries and regional or international organizations; (c) the satisfaction of requests for technical cooperation in the area of statistics and projections; and (d) the widespread adoption and dissemination by countries in the region of methodological and technological advances that ECLAC assists in channelling, in particular the harmonized commodity description and coding system.

Subprogramme 11
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America

Objectives

17.51 The objectives are to promote cooperation among member States in the subregion and to provide support in their efforts geared to: (a) formulating and implementing policies and measures aimed at improving subregional and international integration, economic growth and employment; (b) strengthening the capacity of the subregion to analyse and design appropriate policies and programmes affecting social development; (c) formulating policies and measures to strengthen productive, technological and business development in the agricultural and industrial sectors; and (d) promoting subregional cooperation and integration in the energy sector.

Strategy

17.52 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico. The strategy will emphasize the proposals prepared by ECLAC in its analysis of factors contributing to recent economic developments in countries in the subregion, in particular, those relating to new regional and national economic areas and emerging economic linkages. Similarly, attention will be paid to the new profile of public policies, the review and intensification of reforms, the strengthening of institutional capacities and the role of foreign investment in capital formation, technological change, employment and technical cooperation for development provided to member States in the subregion. The

strategy will also include the preparation and dissemination of documents and technical reports; promotion of the exchange of experiences and technical discussions through panels and expert group meetings; the formulation and implementation of technical cooperation projects directed at the specific needs of countries in crucial areas; and the execution of advisory missions.

17.53 Analytical studies will be undertaken and proposals will be prepared on social issues such as poverty, social exclusion, unemployment and gender mainstreaming affecting the countries in the subregion, at their request, for the purpose of formulating and implementing specific public policies. In the industrial sector, emphasis will be placed on policies and measures implemented to improve competitiveness, mainly through human resources training. In the agriculture sector, the focus will be on productivity measures, the promotion of sustainable agricultural production and measures for alleviating poverty and building human and social capital in rural areas. Proposals on issues relating to development of the energy sector may be formulated and elaborated upon through analytical as well as technical cooperation activities, which may include advisory missions and the execution of specific projects.

Expected accomplishments

17.54 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) enhancement of the institutional capacity of countries in the region to adjust to rapid changes on the international scene, to identify emerging opportunities and to maximize the beneficial effects and mitigate the adverse consequences of globalization; (b) strengthening of institutions aimed at reducing the gender gap; (c) facilitation of the formulation or review of policies on productive restructuring in countries of the subregion; and (d) strengthened technical expertise and facilitation of the design of policies for efficient energy use in the subregion.

Indicators of achievement

17.55 Indicators of achievement would include: (a) the satisfaction expressed by countries in the subregion with the specialized data and updated information generated and disseminated by ECLAC as a basis for negotiations and with the operational activities (advisory missions, technical cooperation projects, etc.) carried out by ECLAC; (b) the number of changes in the regulatory frameworks in the energy sector occurring in the countries that have received technical assistance from ECLAC; and (c) the number of requests for technical cooperation received and satisfied by the Commission covering the aforementioned subject areas.

Subprogramme 12
Subregional activities in the Caribbean

Objective

17.56 The objectives are to promote cooperation among member States in the Caribbean subregion and to provide support in their efforts geared towards: (a) formulating and implementing policies and measures aimed at promoting growth, improving their international linkages with the global economy and consolidating subregional integration; (b) strengthening the capacity of the subregion to analyse and design policies and programmes affecting social development, including gender mainstreaming; (c) promoting institution-building and developing national capacities in the field of science and technology; and (d) implementing the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

Strategy

17.57 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme rests with the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean. Traditionally, this office has monitored macroeconomic trends in the countries in the Caribbean subregion as well as progress in subregional integration, thereby contributing to deeper insight into the problems being faced by such countries and the policy actions adopted to overcome them. This support will be continued and special emphasis will be placed on the comparison of national experiences and on the analysis of policy lessons learned. ECLAC documents and technical reports will be widely distributed and the sharing of experiences and technical debate will be encouraged through panels and meetings of experts to facilitate the discussion of research results. In addition, operational activities will be encouraged, including, where requested, technical cooperation projects, consultation missions and training activities in the relevant technical

fields. Assistance will also be rendered to scientific and technological institutions in the subregion for the design and practice of business management policies and measures and for the incorporation of new technologies for improving competitiveness in the manufacturing and agro-industrial sectors. The subregion will continue to receive support for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, scheduled for review in 2002.

Expected accomplishments

17.58 Expected accomplishments would include: (a) strengthened institutions in both the public and private sectors to facilitate adjustment to rapid changes on the international scene, identify opportunities arising, maximize the benefits and mitigate the adverse effects of globalization and move the process of subregional integration forward in a manner consistent with progress in hemispheric integration and changes in international trade regulations; and (b) strengthened policies, programmes and projects for the alleviation of poverty.

Indicators of achievement

17.59 Indicators would include: (a) the design by countries in the subregion of an additional number of appropriate policies for promoting competitiveness, growth and integration as well as social policies, in particular those geared towards overcoming poverty, resulting from the analytical inputs, proposals and technical cooperation services provided by the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean; (b) the expression of satisfaction by the Caribbean countries with the relevance, timeliness and quality of the documents and technical reports and the outcome of the operational activities conducted; and (c) progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in those countries receiving technical cooperation in various areas from the subregional headquarters.

Legislative mandates

Programme 17
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

General Assembly resolutions

53/28	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development (subprogrammes 4, 5, 11 and 12)
54/141	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action (subprogrammes 5, 11 and 12)
54/197	Towards a stable international financial system, responsive to the challenges of development, especially in the developing countries (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 10)
54/198	International trade and development (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3, 11 and 12)
54/201	Science and technology for development (subprogrammes 2 and 12)
54/210	Women and development (subprogrammes 5, 11 and 12)
54/211	Developing human resources for development (subprogrammes 4 and 5)
54/218	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly (subprogrammes 8, 9, 11 and 12)
54/231	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3 and 10)
54/232	Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (subprogrammes 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12)

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1995/4	Science and technology for development (subprogrammes 2 and 12)
1995/7	2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme
1995/54	Science and technology for development (subprogrammes 2 and 12)
1999/5	Poverty eradication and capacity-building (subprogrammes 4, 5, 11 and 12)
1999/55	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (subprogrammes 4, 5, 6, 8, 11 and 12)
1999/61	Science and technology for development (subprogrammes 2 and 12)

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

533 (XXV)	International linkages (subprogrammes 1, 11 and 12)
534 (XXV)	Open regionalism (subprogrammes 1, 11 and 12)
536 (XXV)	Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development (subprogrammes 6 and 12)
544 (XXV)	Activities on environment and development (subprogrammes 1, 8, 9, 11 and 12)
546 (XXV)	Programme of further cooperation and integration between Latin America and the Caribbean (subprogrammes 1, 11 and 12)
549 (XXV)	Coordination for development (subprogrammes 1 and 2)
552 (XXVI)	Strengthening sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean (subprogrammes 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12)
564 (XXVII)	Aruba resolution on the fiscal covenant: strengths, weaknesses, challenges (subprogrammes 3, 4, 7, 9, 11 and 12)
566 (XXVII)	Programme of work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2000-2001 (all subprogrammes)
568 (XXVII)	Follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 (subprogrammes 5, 11 and 12)
571 (XXVII)	Poverty, population and fiscal expenditures (subprogrammes 3, 6, 11 and 12)
572 (XXVII)	Population and development: preparations for the regional appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (subprogrammes 6 and 12)

Subprogramme 2
Productive, technological and entrepreneurial development

General Assembly resolutions

51/171	Food and sustainable agricultural development
53/177	Industrial development cooperation

Subprogramme 4
Social development and equity

General Assembly resolutions

50/81	World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond
51/202	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

54/24	Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: a society for all ages
54/120	Policies and programmes involving youth
54/121	Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century
54/132	International cooperation against the world drug problem

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1995/17	Enhanced regional cooperation to reduce the risks of drug abuse
1996/7	Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the future role of the Commission for Social Development
1997/18	International Year of Older Persons: towards a society for all ages
1999/18	Policies and programmes involving youth
1999/29	Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction

Subprogramme 5
Mainstreaming the gender perspective in regional development

General Assembly resolutions

50/203	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1996/6	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women
1997/17	Agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action
1998/11	Mid-term review of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, including the status of women in the Secretariat
1998/12	Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action
1998/26	Advancement of women: implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action and the role of operational activities in promoting, in particular, capacity-building and resource mobilization for enhancing the participation of women in development
1998/43	Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

1999/17 Agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

535 (XXV) World Summit for Social Development

558 (XXVI) Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001

Subprogramme 6
Population and development

General Assembly resolutions

51/176 Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

54/212 International migration and development

S-21/2 Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1994/2 Work programme in the field of population

1996/2 Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development

1997/2 International migration and development

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

555 (XXVI) Latin American Demographic Centre

556 (XXVI) Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development

569 (XXVII) Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre — Population Division of ECLAC

Subprogramme 7
Planning of public administration

General Assembly resolutions

50/225 Public administration and development

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

340 (AC.66) Eighth extraordinary session of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC

542 (XXV) Support for the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)

554 (XXVI) Support for the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning

570 (XXVII) Support for the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning

Subprogramme 8
Environment and human settlements

General Assembly resolutions

47/190 Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

47/191 Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

51/177 Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

52/191 Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000

53/180 Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

545 (XXV) Housing and urban development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Subprogramme 9
Natural resources and infrastructure

General Assembly resolutions

54/31 Oceans and the law of the sea

54/35 Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic

54/223 Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decision

1996/44 Coordination of the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in the field of energy

1996/49 Integration of key minerals issues into the implementation of Agenda 21

1996/50 Integrated water resources development and management

1996/303 Recommendations of the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development at its second session

Subprogramme 10
Statistics and economic projections

General Assembly resolutions

53/169 Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

53/172 The financial crisis and its impact on growth and development, especially in the developing countries

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1993/5 1993 System of National Accounts

1995/61 The need to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States

Subprogramme 11
Subregional activities in Mexico and Central America

General Assembly resolutions

50/58 Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

50/132 The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

52/176 The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

53/31 Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

53/94 The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

54/96 E International assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America

54/226 Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Subprogramme 12
Subregional activities in the Caribbean

General Assembly resolutions

53/17	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community
53/189 A	Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
54/224	Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
54/225	Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development
S-22/2	Declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Economic and Social Council resolution

1997/62	Science and technology for development

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions

543 (XXV)	Participation of associate members of ECLAC in United Nations world conferences
574 (XXVII)	Participation of ECLAC associate member countries in the follow-up to United Nations world conferences and in the work of the Economic and Social Council